

THE NEW CONGRESSMEN.

WHO THEY ARE AND WHENCE THEY SPRUNG.

More Than One-Half of Them Seeing Their First Legislative Service—The Preponderance of Military Men—How They Stand as to the Trades and Professions, Etc.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—Unusual interest is felt in the forthcoming issue of the Congressional Directory on account of the large increase in the number of representatives, as well as because of the uncommonly large number of new men. More than one-half of the 325 have taken their seats in the house for the first time. One hundred and nineteen of them served in the army and navy during the war, fifty-four on the Confederate side and sixty-five on the Union side. Of the fifty-four, all are democrats, and of the Union soldiers, fifty are republicans and fifteen democrats. Classified by occupations and professions the membership is as follows: Lawyers, 221; manufacturers, 19; farmers, 18; editors, 10; merchants, 8; bankers, 7; doctors, 5; lumbermen, 2; railroad presidents, 2; railroad operators, 2; minister, 1; pharmacist, 1; zoologist, 1; hatter, 1; railroad ticket agent, 1; cooper, 1; printer, 1; capitalist, 1; politician, 1. The occupations and professions of twenty-two are not stated. It will be observed that the average age of the representatives is unusually large. Taking the Southern states alone somewhat more than seven-eighths of the representatives classify themselves as belonging to the legal profession. Of the eleven Texas men all except Deane are lawyers, as are seven of the nineteen manufacturers, seven are from New York.

BLAINE'S EYE ON THE PRESIDENCY. Nobody believes Blaine when he says he is not looking to the presidency. He simply is trying in the best, because the most cautious way to secure that glittering prize. How silly in contrast to his Talleyrandian tactics is the loud candidacy of Logan, who will assuredly talk himself to death before the convention meets. Very likely Blaine will not go in as a regular candidate and it is possible that he may not be named on the first ballot. He has been trampled twice beneath the feet of dark horses and he may resolve to "gallop with the gang" until a fit time comes to dash to the front. Unquestionably he represents the enthusiastic, aggressive spirit in the republican party. He has more personal friends of influence than any man in the party except, perhaps, Grant. While other candidates are getting convention resolutions, Blaine may be quietly arranging the perplexion of delegations so that when he needs them they will break the weak bonds of instruction received at home and fly to him as the bolting New Yorker did at Chicago. And so he is feared by the Arthur crowd more than any other man.

If there is anyone of our public men indifferent as to the presidency it is Mr. Edmunds. He is plainly bored with the vice presidency and is anxious to shunt it off on to good old Mr. Anthony. No where is there to be seen the happy except at the head of the senate judiciary committee, whence he talks as pure law as one can find in the books. Wonderful is the love men have for what they call their professions—that is, men who rise to their feet, and especially strange it is to those who have the common conceptions of the law, that it should so win men's hearts and woo them from the love of all things else. This cold calendar of enactments, this dreary myriad of amendments, this blushing tide of ambition and served with such faith and constancy as love alone can inspire. Of Jere Black's beautiful words were spoken Friday in the supreme court, by men eminent in the law and the great chancellors of the nation were upon the scene to consider soiled by touching politics. One of the enthusiasts of this class is Edmunds. They are the men like him who go beyond the grating of the temple in the great chamber where there is order, and music and beauty. I don't know that the splendors of the white house could tempt a man from such surroundings. They could never, at any rate, so torment his aspirations as the lowly and the feverish striving for this political pinnacle which is seen in the mere politician.

THE BANKS COUNTY KIDNAP. It is more than probable that the Banks county kidnap case will be the occasion of the breaking down of another of the statutes set up when passion was doing the legislation of congress. Judge Tompkins, when asked if the supreme court had ever decided the question he means to raise, replied, "No. But it has decided to let the case stand. The broken tendency of the decisions of that court of late years has been against enactments which take from state courts rights they used to enjoy. The Yarbrough case is to be heard early in January. The habeas corpus process to be brought by Judge Tompkins will settle the question whether a row or an outrage concerning in the remotest degree a federal election is a legitimate occasion for ignoring the right of a state to regulate its own police and penitentiary methods. The case has been mounted on freely here. It is the general opinion that the statute cannot bear honest legal analysis. If it fails under such a test, Judge Tompkins will have done the entire country a service for which he will receive due honor.

CONFESSIONAL GOSPEL. You ought to see Mr. Carlisle chew tobacco. He seems to have an appetite for it, and tears it between his grinders with an evident relish. Since he has been in the city he has been more than ever, and has a large mouth, capable of doing serious damage. His right bower, Mr. Morrison, goes lighter on tobacco but says more bad words than the speaker.

VILLARD'S RECENT BREAK. Henry Villard's recent disaster has called up much gossip about him as a Washington correspondent twenty years ago. Money doesn't change men. It only develops more glaringly the real elements of their nature. Villard was the same as penny-a-liner and as money king. Always domineering, imperious, and intensely selfish. Well has it been said of him, "If he has lost all his millions he is, indeed, poor, for in their use he has won no man's affections." Let him go. There are better men driving drays and guiding plows all over this land—more useful and more helping men to their fellows and their country.

MILLER'S DONKEYISM. The latest freak of Joaquin Miller's donkeyism is the building of a log cabin in Washington. He is having it erected in the heart of the city and will time it with furs and adorn it with savage bric-a-brac. Miller advertises like a patent medicine, trying to keep up the flavor of the wild west in his dress and manners and thus prove his right to the title of the "poet of the Sierras." He does newspaper work regularly, and when he gets enough poetry collected anywhere in him, he dashes off verses, some of them very pretty.

CHARLIE MADDOX LIKES MILLER. Charlie Maddox likes Miller, and will couple their paragraphs. Charlie has resigned his place as Governor Brown's private secretary after serving him thirteen years. He has gone to Atlanta to be secretary and assistant manager of a fertilizer company. He is

THE FATAL SNOW SLIDE.

DANGERS OF THE RESCUING PARTY WHILE ON ITS RETURN.

Traveling Through a Blinding Snow, When Over-taken by a Second Avalanche—Dead Bodies Carried Down the Mountain 4,000 Feet and Then Over a High Precipice.

DENVER, December 25.—Further particulars of the terrible accident at the Virginia mine, near Ouray, Friday last, have just been received by special messenger. Immediately upon the receipt of the news of the disaster, a party consisting of 51 persons left Ouray to bring in the dead. The journey to the mine was made in the face of great perils, as a terrible storm was raging. After having cared for the wounded and improvised sleds for the bodies of those killed, the party started on their return. When Cumberland basin was reached a second snow storm occurred, but the party succeeded in reaching the edge of the Avalanche before it struck them, and thus escaped instant death. The sleds containing the few dead bodies, however, were carried 2,000 feet down the mountain side to a precipice 500 feet high, over which they were hurled, and there they must remain until spring. The party finally reached Ouray, nearly dead from exhaustion.

BANKING AND CURRENCY.

A Republican Outburst as to the Strength of the Com-mittee—Proposed Legislation.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—Mr. A. H. Buckner, chairman of the committee on banking and currency, is preparing a bill to be introduced when congress reconvenes. The bill is for the issue of treasury notes without the legal tender quality, to take the place of the banks going out of existence. The purpose of the measure is the same as that of the bill introduced by Mr. Buckner at the first session of the last congress. The proposition of Comptroller Knickerbocker to take of the one per cent. tax on circulation and allow the banks to issue on the market value, instead of the par value, is not favored by the chairman of the banking and currency committee. Mr. Buckner says that if the plan of Mr. Knickerbocker is successful in avoiding a contraction of the circulation of bank notes, it would afford but temporary relief, and in seven years from the present, when it becomes necessary to begin redeeming the 4 1/2 per cent. bonds, there would be a recurrence of the present trouble. The national bank system cannot live without a national debt, and as that debt is being wiped out gradually and certainly, Mr. Buckner is of opinion that it is time to prepare for a permanent circulation. He is not favorably inclined to the reduction of interest on circulation, giving as his reason that while in the eastern states, where interest is low, the circulation is not valuable and worth all that the government asks, in the western states Mr. Buckner says the franchises are still more valuable, because the rates of interest are higher. The originator of the proposed measure is doubtful of the probability of any legislation upon the subject during the present term of congress, owing to the diversity of opinion upon the question. To Mr. Buckner's committee will be referred all questions relating to national banks. Representative Dingley, of Maine, heads the list of republican members on this committee. Mr. Dingley to-day said he thought that but two of the plans proposed were practicable. One of these was to provide for the issue of circulating notes on national bonds to an amount equal to 90 per cent. of the market value of the bonds deposited by them to secure circulation. After a hasty examination of the list of members of the committee he submitted a list of questions which he thought were the more likely to find favor with the committee. He would not venture an opinion as to the treatment which the other plan he had in mind as practicable to take the tax of the circulation of the national bank notes would probably receive from the committee formed. He now expressed himself as well pleased with the committee as named. He thought it was a strong committee, a committee made up of strong men, who are interested in the questions which are to be submitted to them. The committee, he thought, was also well selected geographically. New York, Massachusetts, Delaware and Maine, with their great interests in the settlement of the question, were represented, as were also the Pacific coast, the great lakes, the great river, and the Mississippi river. He was satisfied, he said, that the committee was strongly in favor of doing something at once for the revival of American shipping, and he was inclined to think that the majority of the committee would be found favoring free ships. Mr. Dingley was also placed first in the list of republicans on the new committee on the revival of American shipping. He was prominently identified during the last congress with the question for which this committee was raised.

THURMAN'S WATCHFUL EYE.

Waiting for the Development in the Senatorial Con-ference.

COLUMBUS, O., December 25.—Ex Senator Thurman has returned home suddenly from his contemplated tour south for the winter. He only got as far as Pennsylvania, and stopped to see Simon Cameron. The meeting between these political enemies of old-time personal friends was cordial. Thurman is now doing the hermit act. He keeps indoors, refuses to see most visitors, and altogether surrounds his movements with a great deal of mystery. His son Alonzo is supposed to vaguely reflect his intentions and ambitions. He is discreet, and does not unfold, except in a vague way, the aspirations of his father. Enough, however, has been sifted from parent to son to raise the presumption that the aspect of the senatorial contest has changed. Mr. Thurman's plans. It is now understood that the venerable ex-senator may himself be a candidate for Mr. Pendleton's place. If this be true gossip here says that it means one of two things—either the race is shifted for the prize, or the prize in the contest between Payne and Pendleton, or that he may gather strength enough from his old-time following to hold the balance of power and finally re-elect his friend who now occupies the seat. Being a man who has been in the senate for twenty years, he is not likely to feel like antagonizing the new and vigorous power that is now dominating his party in this state. From information that can be gathered from quiet conversation it appears that Thurman is one of the most neutral. There is a feeling among some of Pendleton's followers that, in case the tide should so significantly against him, he might make his chance of winning extremely perilous, he should be dropped, and Thurman, who has been the victor in every fight, snatch victory from defeat. The introduction of the Thurman mystery into this campaign is an interesting if not important episode. The eagerness with which Mr. Pendleton's friends were willing to assume that Mr. Thurman is their ally, in the hope of gaining some momentum for their halting cause, is but another evidence of the growing feeling against the present democratic senator from Ohio.

EGGED BY AN ANGRY BLONDE.

How a New Haven Swain Was Treated by His Adored One.

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, December 25.—Henry R. Chidsey, a gay young man of fifty years, adorned Miss Lizzie Johnson, a pretty blonde girl. She, however, refused to notice him. He persisted. To-day he called at the restaurant where she is cashier, and made all sorts of passionate appeals. She tried to escape him, but he followed her. At last she became angry. Her eyes fell on a basket of fresh country eggs, and with these she opened a bombardment. The first struck him full in the face, broke, and its component parts wandered carelessly over his open countenance. Moved by her successes, Miss Johnson fired again at her unfortunate lover. She literally shelled him with eggs. Her aim became very bad, and the bystanders scattered. Henry stood upon the order of his going, but went, followed by the angry blonde. He had been satisfied with the punishment she had bestowed upon him, Miss Johnson had her lover arrested. In the city court, this morning, the case was settled for \$2 and costs.

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THE PARTICULARS OF THE NEW ALBANY RAILROAD DISASTER.

The Killed and Wounded.

NEW ALBANY, Ind., December 25.—Additional details relative to the railroad accident which occurred here on Friday last, have been received. The train was running at the rate of 40 miles an hour when it reached the bridge, the abutments of which had been undermined by the swollen stream. The locomotive crossed safely, but the baggage and express cars, which were being towed by the engine, plunged into the water. The ladies and buffet car remained on track. The portion of the train not submerged caught fire, and in less than half an hour the whole train was consumed. John Vaughan, engineer, was so badly injured that he cannot live. Rough, the fireman, was slightly injured. Charles Sanford, baggage master, was wedged into his car by the baggage and drowned. Jacob Helfrich, aged seventy years, a German minister of this city, was burned to death. A reputation as the place to which he had been taken, and two from Chicago who were going to Louisville to work at street paving, are among the missing. Four unrecognizable bodies have been taken from the wreck. Miss Dora Idings, who was reported to have been killed, is still alive. The wounded were taken to the hotel. Their names could not be ascertained. Two others are believed to be fatally injured. The loss to the company is estimated at \$35,000. One of the bodies is supposed to be that of Boone Thompson, a Washington country farmer.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., December 25.—Last night a train from Boston to Portland, over the Eastern railroad, consisting of two baggage cars, a freight car, and a passenger car, with two locomotives attached, was running at a high speed, and as it struck the switch near Greenland depot the switch broke. Both engines passed over safely, but the couplings between the rear engine and the baggage car broke, and a train was thrown against the locomotive of the freight train, which was side tracked. The engine, two baggage cars, and the mail car were completely wrecked and the track was strewn with debris. The passengers felt only a slight shock. The freight train was stopped in place, but no others were hurt. The loss will be about \$2,500.

A RUNAWAY GIRL.

The Daughter of a Providence Banker. Elopes and is Found in Milwaukee.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., December 25.—This city is fast obtaining a reputation as the place to which runaway girls from various parts of the country make their way. The latest case in this line is the finding here of the 17 year old daughter of a Providence, R. I., banker, who disappeared mysteriously two years ago. Last night she was found in a hotel here, brought a tall, well-dressed stranger, who immediately sought a detective. The two took a carriage and proceeded to a well-known house. A few minutes later they emerged, leading a young girl. The three entered a carriage and drove to the city hall, where the girl was taken to the police station. The girl, who is said to be a native of Providence, and no trace could be learned of her for weeks. At length it was discovered that a girl answering to her description was living in Boston as the wife of one Hines, a railroad news agent. Mr. Cook paid a visit to Boston, but the girl had disappeared. He is now tracing her to New York, thence to St. Louis, and finally back to Chicago. There he again lost all trace of her. This was four months ago. Monday of this week he received a letter from the missing girl, who confessed that she had made the acquaintance of Hines at a matinee, and two months later had abandoned a pleasant home, family and friends to follow him. He had taken her to St. Louis and thence back to Chicago, where he deserted her since that time. He has since, it is said, she has been living a disreputable life. The father at once came to Milwaukee, and last evening met his daughter. The two took the train for the east to-day.

FAY TEMPLETON SET FREE.

Billy West, After Two Months' Marriage, Sees Her Again.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, December 25.—The newspapers have been gossiping a good deal of late about the strange separation of Fay Templeton, the comic opera star, and Billy West, of Thatcher, Primrose & West's minstrels, after two months of married life. Billy told the story of his acquaintance and marriage to your reporter to-day. Among other things he said: "Soon after our marriage, while in Chicago, we discovered that there was incompatibility of temper between us which would preclude the possibility of our ever being happy together. She is bright, vivacious, educated, perfect little lady with superior music and vocal attainments and in many respects my ideal wife, but I noticed that she hadn't the love for me that a wife should bear toward a husband. To tell the truth, we didn't understand each other perfectly. We hadn't been enough in each other's society before marriage, our only meetings being for a few weeks now and then in the summer vacation season. Besides, a woman who has been on the stage, petted and flattered, cannot easily throw off the taste for notice and adulation upon becoming a wife. So we agreed to disagree. It was a mutual arrangement entirely satisfactory to me, and as far as I know, perfectly pleasing to her. There was no intense ill-feeling in the matter. I remember her kindly and would speak to her if I met her. Neither one of us has sought, since our separation, to malign the other's character; neither had any reason to. There was no deception in the matter, no interference of people-in-law. We simply saw that we were not intended for

one another, and that we would be happier apart. I expect to have my bill of divorce for incompatibility and desertion, from a Chicago court, the first week in January. Now affairs of this kind drive some fellows to drink, and break them all up, but I haven't as much as lost a night's sleep over it."

CRIME AND CASUALTY.

The Landlady's Inevitable Shocking Suicide—A Fight with Knives.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 25.—Charles Souder, aged 30 years, residing at No. 433 North Second street, committed suicide this morning. He had been very despondent since his wife's death, six months ago. This morning he complained of illness, and took some medicine. Shortly afterwards he kissed his two children and went into the kitchen to prepare to cut off his left hand with a meat ax. He then went up stairs and attempted to cut his throat, but was evidently too weak to do so. After this effort he threw himself out of the third-story window, falling on his head. He was picked up and removed to the hospital, but died before reaching it.

ST. LOUIS, December 25.—Mrs. D. C. Gibson keeps a large boarding house in this city. She is separated from her husband, D. C. Gibson. Last night, while the boarders were at dinner, Gibson entered the dining room and attacked John Bunting with a revolver. The first shot struck Arthur Mulholland, and the second and third struck Bunting. Gibson then fired into his own brain. Mulholland is believed to be mortally wounded. Mulholland is not dangerously hurt. Bunting is her son-in-law. Gibson died in the city hospital last night.

NEW YORK, December 25.—A fight occurred last night in a liquor saloon near Gansevoort market between the proprietor and a gang of roughs, who began to smash the windows and threaten to cut his throat for assistance. Policeman John Taylor and George Smith made their appearance, and were set upon by the gang who disarmed Taylor and knocked him down, beat him unmercifully. In order to protect himself, Officer Smith drew his revolver and shot Thomas Fitzpatrick, leader of the gang, who sprang at him with an open knife. The shot took effect in his left breast above the heart and will probably prove fatal. The remainder of the crowd scattered as soon as the shot was fired. Officer Smith was suspended by order of superintendent Walling. He does not deny that he shot Fitzpatrick deliberately, but he says he did it in self defense.

BOSTON, December 25.—John Moran, of Boston, who was sentenced in 1867 to life imprisonment for the crime of killing his brother, was pardoned to-day by Governor Butler. It has been proven that the girl had a bad reputation, and that there were many extenuating circumstances connected with the crime. George H. Richardson, sentenced to life imprisonment for killing his father at Charlestown, was also pardoned to-day. Late developments show that the killing was accidental.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., December 25.—Lucy Allen, a single lady thirty-four years of age, was found dead in a room at McLean, this county, at noon to-day. The cause of her death is supposed to have been caused from gas from a hard-coal stove. She kept a millinery store, and lived in it alone. She was a daughter of Mrs. John W. Allen, widow, who lives near McLean, and was a grand-daughter of James Allen, one of the earliest pioneers of this county, and one who laid out Bloomington. When found the stove was gasping badly, and the gas was unbearably strong in the room. The dampers in the stove-pipe were closed, and the front damper and cold air damper were open.

GOSHEN, Vt., December 25.—William Catlin, a farmer, has died under circumstances indicative of poisoning. Catlin was taken ill, and arsenic was found in a solution administered to him, by mistake she claimed. Emetics were given and Catlin recovered. On the 7th he was again taken ill and died yesterday, after being treated for typhoid fever. An autopsy is ordered. Since his death rumors of undue intimacy between Mrs. Catlin and a man named McLean, this county, at noon to-day. The cause of her death is supposed to have been caused from gas from a hard-coal stove. She kept a millinery store, and lived in it alone. She was a daughter of Mrs. John W. Allen, widow, who lives near McLean, and was a grand-daughter of James Allen, one of the earliest pioneers of this county, and one who laid out Bloomington. When found the stove was gasping badly, and the gas was unbearably strong in the room. The dampers in the stove-pipe were closed, and the front damper and cold air damper were open.

GUTHRIE'S SKELETON.

An Articulated Ruckle of Bones in the Army Medical Museum.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—(Guthrie's skeleton) has been exhibited and hidden in a private room of the army medical museum, the scene of the assassination of the late President Lincoln, but it has been deemed best to deny the public admission to the room at least for the present. An improved French method of embalming was used in the case of the skeleton, and the French loss in the position, the vertebrae being held in position by three large brass screws attached to a perpendicular brass rod about an inch in diameter. One of the most skillful anatomists in this country superintended the operation, and great care was taken to see that none of the bones were carried off by relic seekers. When Guthrie's body was first brought to the museum a daring employee succeeded in eluding the watchman, and cut off a piece of flesh, which he has since exhibited in alcohol. He is now being visited by relic seekers, and the articulated skeleton the appearance of an ivory figure, and the few who have been allowed access to the room in which it is stored, pronounce it a most creditable piece of anatomical work. Upon the occasion of Sergeant Mason's recent visit to Washington he was invited to call at the museum and inspect the bones of the assassin who had caused him so much trouble. The visitor eyed the skeleton curiously, and could not refrain from shaking his fist and muttering, "Our country owes a debt to this man's land." Other relics of the assassin which are preserved in the museum were shown the sergeant, and he expressed himself much gratified at finding his intended victim had been safely secured. It was useless, however, as the museum authorities have been compelled to adopt stringent rules against allowing strangers in the private room where it is kept. One of the first inquiries of the tourist after climbing three tiers of iron stairs leading into the museum proper, is for Guthrie's skeleton, or anything that belonged to the assassin, and hundreds are daily disappointed by the watchman's stereotyped answer, "There is nothing of the sort on exhibition, sir." It is likely, however, that in the course of a few years the skeleton will be exhibited to the public after a properly-secured case has been prepared for its exhibition.

SWAPPING PARTNERS.

ST. LOUIS, December 25.—Stone county, Missouri, is excited over a case of wife trading between two prominent families. Nathaniel Massengale recently fell violently in love with pretty Mrs. Loomis, and proposed to Loomis to trade, giving Mrs. Massengale an eight-months-old baby for Mrs. Loomis's accepted, but trouble arose when Mrs. Loomis tried to take with her a valuable horse. There was shooting between Loomis and Massengale before the horse was sold, but all is quiet now, and the parties are all happy in their new relations.

MARY WILL NOT WED.

SHE PREFERS THE GLITTER OF THE STAGE TO THE CORONET.

The London Critics Condemn the Antics of Lotta and Declare Her to be a Dead Failure—The Mystification Created in Rome by the Visit of the German Crown Prince.

LONDON, December 25.—American actresses occupy a large share of the columns of the Sunday papers. Miss Mary Anderson and her alleged matrimonial engagements are freely commented upon, and the latest rumor is that "at the close of her London season she is to return to America and marry Mr. Henry E. Abbey." The ingenious monger of misinformation who divulges this secret adds very prettily that it will be a royal event—the marriage of the king of American managers and the queen of the American stage. The rumor seems incredible, however, from the fact that Mr. Abbey has so recently been made a widower that he is not likely to be now seeking a matrimonial alliance. The report that the American star is about to marry the duke of Portland is also republished to-day with some amplifications, and a correspondent of the cable news company this evening called upon Miss Anderson and asked her if she would deny or confirm either or both reports. Miss Anderson replied: "You will do me a favor if you will refrain from further inquiries in America my denial of both stories. They are both equally silly, and," she added, pleasantly, "it is an open secret that I have been wedded for several years to my art."

Lotta comes next. The Sunday papers are liberal in their abuse of Lotta. The staid and respectable Observer leads the chorus, and all the "penny dreadfuls" are barking at its heels. The Observer says that the play has been so injudiciously cut that its plot, if it ever had any, is obscured, and that the selection of the musical songs and music is simply silly. Of Lotta herself this ungalant old Observer says she is old, vulgar and ungraceful; that her voice is harsh, and that she is a dead failure. Mr. Abouche was prominent among the auditors at the Opera Comique, and considerable curiosity is expressed as to what the forthcoming number of Truth will have to say regarding the debutante.

RUSSIA AND THE POPE.

ROME, December 25.—The German crown prince left quite a cloud of mystification and discontent behind him, both at the Vatican and at the quinal. The Observatore Romano, at present the only official organ of the Vatican, gives an authoritative denial of the assertions of the Russian and other papers which publish pretended fragments of the conversation of the pope and the crown prince. Italian officials bitterly criticize the manner in which the crown prince visited the pope. King Humbert openly remarked: "Although the crown prince staid with me as my guest, yet it was solely the pope that attracted him to Rome. It was his host, but it was the pope he came to see." The pope, wishing to preserve the exact words of his conversation, prepared to publish them last night, but insisted that the two first be replaced by others. The pope hopes for better terms. His holiness was willing to accept the resignation of Mr. Melcher, archbishop of Cologne, and Cardinal Ledachowski, archbishop of Posen, but on the sole condition that the Russian government accords to the seminaries full liberty of teaching.

The Political Correspondence of Vienna says it has learned that Prince Frederick Wilhelm, while at the quinal, extended an invitation to King Humbert and Queen Margherita to visit the German court at Balm, and that the invitation was accepted. The visit will probably be made next spring.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

PARIS, December 25.—The Temps protests against the rumors of England's mediation between France and China, and adds: "France will always pay great attention to the French colonies, but must see her claims in Tonquin recognized. It is not for England to offer mediation if China does not ask for it."

The Vienna correspondent hears from a reliable source that France has determined to permit no interference with her programme in Tonquin, and to enter into no negotiations whatever for peace with China until the French occupy Bacinh.

A Madrid correspondent of the Times states that he hears from good authority that the Chinese troops took no part in the defense of Sontay, and that the French losses in the recent battle there were much greater than was officially stated. Preparations for the defense of the Red river delta by the Chinese continues to be made on a large scale.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 25.—The Russian General Kantakuzin has been appointed minister of war of Bulgaria.

AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDING.

Chairman Seem Decides Himself in Favor of Free Ships and Opposed to Subsidies.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—General Slocum, of New York, who has been made chairman of the new select committee on American ship building and ship owning, has long been interested in the revival of American shipping. He is in favor of allowing ship owners to purchase vessels whenever they can get them cheapest, and admitting such vessels to the American register when purchased. He is opposed to giving direct subsidies to vessel owners as a means to the restoration of the American marine to its former importance, but is in favor of removing some of the burdens which, upon the operation of the present shipping laws of the United States, rest upon the American shipping industry. He said to an Associated Press reporter to-night that he thought this congress would do something towards reviving the shipping industry, but until he had become acquainted with the gentlemen who were to be his colleagues on the committee, he did not care to venture an opinion as to which of the plans proposed would be adopted by the committee. For himself he said he was in favor of free ships, and he thought the majority of the house of representatives would vote for free ships if the question were presented. He did not think it possible to build up the American merchant marine if Americans ship owners were to be compelled in future, as at present, to pay forty per cent more for their vessels than foreign shipowners. Hence he was willing to allow an American owner to purchase his vessels in the best market, in order to encourage American ship building. He thought the builder in the United States should be allowed the use of free material by giving him a rebate of the duties paid on the materials imported, and in the construction of

vessels for the foreign trade. He inclined to the opinion that with equally cheap material, the American ship builder could successfully compete with the ship builders on the Clyde. The increased cost of labor in this country being offset by the greater skill of American mechanics. He said that several bills had already been introduced in this congress, embodying the features of a bill reported by the select committee from the special committee on shipping. One of these, which proposed to remove certain burdens upon American shipping, such as three months pay to discharged seamen, the obligation to carry American mates, the provisions of the law requiring the payment of various fees to the port officers, he thought would meet with no opposition, but of others he could not speak with any assurance.

THE MACON NOTEBOOK.

Serious Trouble With the Christmas Collectors—Specie to the Constitution.

MACON, December 25.—Officers Shirer and Akridge, of the police force, had a serious difficulty with negroes to-day, in which both of them were in danger. These officers were stationed on Fourth street where they were approached by a negro man who asked to have a party arrested. Going with him, they reached the railroad crossing between Fifth and Sixth street, where three men and a woman were gathered. The negroes saw the officers approaching and began to walk faster. They were told to halt, but did not do so. Suddenly the party halted and began cursing the officers, daring them to approach, threatening to kill them. They approached, and one of them, known as General Lee Hall, began to strike at Shirer. Akridge struck him on the head, and was holding him. Nellie Hall, a sister of the man who attacked Shirer, grabbed him during the melee and tripped him up. Akridge left him, who was very drunk, and went to the assistance of Shirer. A negro, named Akridge, succeeded in getting away, and began to run. He was closely followed by Shirer, and when within twenty steps of him he suddenly turned and shot at his pursuer three times, narrowly missing him. Akridge then drew his pistol and fired twice without effect. He ran under one of the railroad culverts and made good his escape—running to the swamps.

The woman, Nellie Hall, and the other negro were arrested and placed in the barracks.

A horse attached to a buggy of Mr. W. J. Bush, of East Macon, became frightened at cannon crackers in front of Benner's restaurant to-day and ran away, smashing up the buggy. Mr. Bush escaped.

Last night at ten minutes to twelve, Mr. L. Greenwood, a Fourth street merchant, passed his store and discovered a large ball of cord and rags, saturated with oil, burning under the eaves of the front portion of the building. He got it away as quickly as possible and saved the house from burning up. It was the appearance of being the work of an incendiary.

In an altercation between two young men, Edward Loh and Alfred Price, in the store of Jeff Ware, near Tattal square, Loh was shot by Price with a shotgun. His wound is not of a serious nature, being peppered with bird shot. Price was arrested.

At the Catholic church to-day high mass was celebrated. Father McCarthy officiating, assisted by Fathers Colbert, Deacon, and Mr. Egan, sub-deacon. The ceremony was very imposing. The music was grand and was decided to have been the best ever listened to in Macon. The choir rendered Farmer's Mass in B flat, and Lambillotte's Tantum ergo. The choir had been practicing for the occasion for two months. It consisted of Miss S. M. Stephens, M. Noon, N. Wagnenst and Mrs. J. G. Weisz, soprano; Misses Lizzie Stephens, M. Daly, and M. Whittle, alto; Messrs. E. Hathnane and J. Strupper, tenors; Mr. J. J. Haden, bass. Professor J. G. Weisz performed on the organ. The singing of the Misses Stephens was particularly fine and enjoyed very much by the large congregation.

To-day has been one of the dullest Christmas days ever known in this city. It has been a very gloomy and dreary one, with no sun, and a heavy mist. The churches and a general suspension of business has been made. The conventional horn holds its own, and to-night the little boys will live it up with three large bonfires.

THE LAND OF GIANT.

Seeking to Organize an Expedition to Find the Alleged Four Fairy Lakes.

WASHINGTON, December 25.—Captain Geo. E. Tyson, of Polaris fame, has received a letter from A. Symmes, dated at Symmesville, Ky., December 7. The subject is that of going north in command of an expedition next May or June to be undertaken by subscription for the purpose of finding the country that Nordenskjold, Wiggins and Captain Tuttle found after passing the magnetic pole at eighty degrees north latitude, and running south after getting into the open Polar Sea until they found the edge of the ice, a people never before heard of and reported to the Art Society of London by Captains Wiggins and Seaborn. Captain Tuttle also reported having found the same country and people, and describes the people as being very large, with black hair and eyes, and a few large tusks. The writer says: "I find no difficulty in finding people willing to subscribe money enough to buy a steamer like the Polaris, and go in search of the people and country that Wiggins, Seaborn and Tuttle found. Why they rode on horseback through the new country and saw hemp, flax, wheat, hides, wool, ivory, iron ore, and were told of ten or twelve gold mines that yield from five to seven tons each yearly. Captain Hall said that if there were a people up there they must be giants, as the atmosphere was so life-giving, and now they are found and reported to be seven or eight feet high and well proportioned."

BY THE FLAMES.

A Four Hundred Thousand Dollar Fire in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, December 25.—A fire began last night at the extensive brick factory and warehouse of Samuel Cripples, which was totally destroyed. The fire spread to several neighboring establishments which were almost totally destroyed. Loss \$400,000. An explosion in the Bush wine company building shattered its walls, which in their fall killed John Conway and M. Kehoe, buried them in the debris, and more or less injured S. Gallagher, P. K. Powers, T. W. Williams, and John Hanley, all members of the salvage corps, who were spreading tarpaulins when the wall fell. Other adjoining property on Third street was damaged by the fire and water. Samuel Cripples & Co. loss on stock \$150,000; on building, owned by J. E. Leggett, \$20,000. The Hoyle building, corner Fourth and Elm streets, was damaged \$25,000. Isador Bush wine Co's stock in the basement was valued at \$150,000. Their loss cannot be estimated. The Knights of Honor lodge and the Frank Blair post of G. A. R. lost \$10,000 on furniture and paraphernalia. The Murphy varnish company, adjoining the Hoyle building, lost about \$30,000. Hattori & Co. of the factory, lost \$12,500 on stock.

John H. Inman
(DECEASED)



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